Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5239

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL THE HAGUE 0763

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, NL
SUBJ: US-NETHERLANDS CIVIL AVIATION RELATIONS:
AMBASSADOR'S FEBRUARY 8 MEETING WITH FONMIN
VAN DER STOEL

- 1. DURING MY FEBRQARY 8 MEETING WITH FONMIN VAN DER STOEL ON AMOTHER SUBJECT THE CURRENT STATUS OF OUR BILATERAL CIVIL AVIATION PROBLEM CAME UP. STARTING FROM WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS THE PRESENT IMPASSE, VAN DER STOEL GAVE ME A RESUME OF HIS NOW WELL-KNOWN VIEWS ON THE POOR REACTION WHICH THE AMERICAN PROPOSAL WAS RECEIVING FROM DUTCH UNIONS AND DUTCH PARLIAMENTARIANS.
- 2. RESPONDING, I POINTED OUT THAT SO FAR THERE HAD BEEN NO ADVERSE EFFECT WHATSOEVER ON KLM WHEREAS PANAM HAD CUT ITS SCHEDULE IN HALF. IT CERTAINLY WAS NOT WITHIN THE TRADITION OF DUTCH INTELLECTUAL ENDEAVOR TO EMOTIONALIZE AN ISSUE OF THIS SORT. INDEED, IT MADE IT MORE DPFFICULT RATHER THAN LESS DIFFICULT TO FIND A CONFIDENTIAL

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SOLUTION. I WONDERED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR A

TEMPORARY AGREEMENT TO BE REACHED ON AN AD HOC BASIS ON FREQUENCIES, REFERRING THE CONCEPTUAL PROBLEM OF SIXTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC TO A STUDY GROUP-PERHAPS COMPOSED OF SOMEONE FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND SOMEONE FROM TRANSPORTATION ON THE DUTCH SIDE. AND SOMEONE FROM THE CAB AND SOMEONE FROM STATE ON THE AMERICAN SIDE.

- 3. I MENTIONED REPORTS THAT AMERICA WAS RE-EXAMINING ITS ENTIRE AVIATION POLICY AND THAT NEW GUIDELINES WOULD BE SUMBITTED TO CONGRESS TO INCREASE COMPETITION. THIS MIGHT WELL HAVE AN IMPACT ON PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS. IN ANY EVENT, THE SECRETARY IS DEFINITELY CONCERNED THAT DUTCH-AMERICAN RELATIONS SHOULD NOT BE UPSET.
- 4. THE MINISTER REPLIED TO MY SUGGESTION AS TO AN AD HOC SOLUTION ON FREQUENCY BY SAYING THAT WHILE THE NUMBERS WERE NOT TOO FAR APART HE WAS SURE THAT 14 FLIGHTS A WEEK WAS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE. I REPLIED TO THE EFFECT THAT THE POSITION PUT FORWARD BY THE US SIDE DURING THE LAST ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE HAGUE WAS NOT NECESSARILY OUR FINAL ONE.

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TAGS: EAIR, NL, US, (STOEL, MAX VAN DER)
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